

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11, 16-20, & 22-26 are allowed. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11, 16-20, & 22-26 are considered allowable since no prior art reference or combination of prior art references disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims including:

"wherein the gateway address translator is configured to provide a virtual bearer function for messaging between said first and second media gateway controllers" in combination with other claim limitations as specified in claim 1.

"provide virtual gateways for respective one of said first and second media gateway controller, wherein said virtual gateways perform virtual bearer messaging between said first media gateway controller and said second media gateway controller" in combination with other claim limitations as specified in claim 23.

"relaying, by the computer, a third message between the first and second media gateway controller to provide virtual bearer messaging between the first and second media gateway controller" in combination with other claim limitations as specified in claim 24.

"a compute configured to perform gateway address translation between each paired media gateway and media gateway controller wherein said computer is configured to further perform virtual bearer messaging between said plurality of media gateway controllers" in combination with other claim limitations as specified in claim 25.

"relaying a third message between the first and second media gateway controller to provide virtual bearer messaging between the first and second media gateway controller" in combination with other claim limitations as specified in claim 26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT W. WILSON whose telephone number is (571)272-3075. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dang Ton can be reached on 571/272-3171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert W Wilson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2475

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1/21/11